

Mr. Speaker, I ask the 115th Congress to join me in congratulating ROA on the 50th anniversary celebration of their national headquarters building. On behalf of my constituents, I wish the ROA all the best in its future endeavors.

HONORING FIRST CHOICE HEALTH CARE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization who has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve their community, First Choice Health Care. First Choice Health Care has served as a support system to families of Yazoo County.

Veronica Starling attended Hinds Nursing Allie Health Center. She was in the first LPN to RN bridge program. Five years later, Starling decided to take her career to the next level by becoming a business woman. Starling formed First Choice Health Care through her career as a nurse. First Choice Health Care opened in Yazoo County, Mississippi in 2015. With 52 employees, the local facility provides quality care for loved ones in a home-like atmosphere.

First Choice Home Health can provide services to all 82 counties within the State of Mississippi. Overall the company employs 218 people and currently provides services in 39 counties. The Yazoo City locations have the largest staff.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing First Choice Home Health for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

RECOGNIZING McMAHON/RYAN CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER DURING CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS & PREVENTION MONTH

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month and to honor the tremendous work of McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center in Syracuse, New York.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services, over 683,000 children were victims of child abuse or neglect in 2015, a number that has held steady for years. Additionally, 1,670 children died from child abuse or neglect in 2015 and according to the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, the majority of these deaths could have been prevented.

Since 1983, April has been designated as Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention month. In recent years, the focus of the month on recognition and prevention has expanded to include promoting healthier parenting and strong families.

In Central New York, we are incredibly fortunate to have McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy

Center as a strong resource. This organization works to prevent child abuse and neglect and to provide care and support for those who have endured abuse. The goal of McMahon/Ryan is to end child abuse, and to ensure that the community fully understands the impact of abuse.

The McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center offers a variety of life-changing programs which work efficiently every day to support victims of Child Abuse, and stop child abuse outright. Throughout the month of April, McMahon/Ryan will recognize Child Abuse Prevention Month with its annual "Go Blue 4 Kids" Campaign. In 1989, Bonnie Finney, a grandmother in Virginia began the blue-ribbon campaign as a tribute to her three-year-old grandson who had died at the hands of abuse. The blue ribbon remains a symbol of childhood abuse and neglect prevention across the United States. Additionally, the blue pinwheel is a national symbol of child abuse and neglect prevention. It stands as an uplifting reminder that all children deserve a happy childhood and future. Purchasing a pinwheel this month helps McMahon/Ryan contribute to the lives of children directly in our community.

I encourage all Central New Yorkers to "Go Blue" during the month of April and to support the work of McMahon/Ryan Child Advocacy Center to help end child abuse.

RECOGNIZING THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, April 10, 2018 marks the 39th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, one of the most important components of U.S. policy toward Taiwan. In addition to President Reagan's 1982 Six Assurances, the Taiwan Relations Act forms the cornerstone of the U.S.-Taiwan relationship, providing unequivocal guidance for relations with our ally, an ally whose progress has been an inspiration to all those still suffering under repressive governments. Taiwan's vibrant democracy, open society, and free market are examples to the world of what can be achieved when innovation and human rights are allowed to flourish. They also make Taiwan a natural partner for the United States, a partnership that has served as an anchor for peace and security in the Western Pacific. As we celebrate the 39th anniversary of this critical law, it is incumbent upon the United States to ensure we are doing everything in our power to ensure the promise of the Taiwan Relations Act, assisting Taiwan so that she can resist all types of political, economic, and military coercion by the regime in Beijing, and strengthening the already formidable U.S.-Taiwan partnership.

The American Institute in Taiwan's new compound in Taipei's Neihu district exemplifies the significant progress being made in the U.S.-Taiwan relationship and our long-term commitment to our ally. Built with American materials and by American workers, the compound is a symbol of strong U.S.-Taiwan relations, and made even more powerful by the fact that our lease is for 99 years, a number

signifying longevity in Taiwanese culture. With an inaugural ceremony for the new compound to be held on June 12, 2018, I am looking forward to visiting as soon as possible and I encourage all my colleagues to visit and support the U.S.-Taiwan relationship.

Signed into law on March 16, 2018, the Taiwan Travel Act is another illustration of our strong partnership with Taiwan. I was a proud cosponsor of this law which states that it should be U.S. policy to not only allow visits from Taiwanese officials at all levels of government, but to encourage and facilitate these visits. It also states that our own policy-makers, including at the highest levels of government, should visit Taiwan for face-to-face meetings with their counterparts. For too long, administration after administration have caved to Chinese pressure and self-imposed restrictions in our relations with Taiwan. With the Taiwan Travel Act, the United States is doing the right thing by our friend and ally and taking another step toward taking full advantage of our wonderful partnership.

Finally, the U.S.-Taiwan economic relationship is very robust as Taiwan is the United States' eleventh largest trading partner and the United States is Taiwan's second largest. Taiwan's free market and importance in global supply chains make it an ideal place for foreign investment and Americans have recognized this fact with the United States becoming Taiwan's largest investor and an important exporter of agricultural goods to Taiwan. We must keep looking for ways to mutually benefit from our growing partnership, including through new trade deals.

With the anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act fast approaching, this is an opportune time to review the U.S.-Taiwan partnership and work toward making our relations even stronger, and I am looking forward to working with all my colleagues to see how we can do just that.

WILLIAM R. HOSEY

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2018

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William R. Hosey, a constituent of Haddon Heights, Camden County, located in New Jersey's First Congressional District, on the occasion of his retirement as assistant business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local Union 351.

Mr. Hosey has been a member of IBEW for 37 years, serving as president, business agent, and assistant business manager. In his roles and responsibilities, Mr. Hosey has represented more than 2,300 IBEW members and distinguished himself as an influential labor advocate for fair, equal, and safe working conditions for the hardworking men and women of Southern New Jersey.

Brother Hosey is a 1978 graduate of Lenape High School in Medford, New Jersey, and graduated in 1986 from an electrical apprenticeship.

Throughout his career, Brother Hosey has been a valued member of IBEW Local 351 & 439's Pension, Annuity and Health and Welfare Funds.